

# CALFRESH (CF) PROGRAM

## REQUEST FOR POLICY/REGULATION INTERPRETATION

**INSTRUCTIONS:** Complete items 1 - 10 on the form. Use a separate form for each policy interpretation request. If additional space is needed, please use the second page. Be sure to identify the additional discussion with the appropriate number and heading. Retain a copy of the CF 24 for your records.

- Questions from counties, including county Quality Control, must be submitted by the county CalFresh Coordinator and may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility for the county, with a copy directed to the appropriate CalFresh Policy unit manager.
- Questions from Administrative Law Judges may be submitted directly to the CalFresh Policy analyst assigned responsibility to the county where the hearing took place, with a copy of the form directed to the appropriate CalFresh Bureau unit manager.

1. RESPONSE NEEDED DUE TO: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Policy/Regulation Interpretation <input type="checkbox"/> QC <input type="checkbox"/> Fair Hearing <input type="checkbox"/> Other:	5. DATE OF REQUEST: 9/15/17	NEED RESPONSE BY: 10/1/17
2. REQUESTOR NAME:	6. COUNTY/ORGANIZATION: Shasta County HHSA	
3. PHONE NO.:	7. SUBJECT: Standard Medical Deductions	
4. REGULATION CITE(S):	8. REFERENCES: (Include ACL/ACIN, court cases, etc. in references) <b>NOTE: All requests must have a regulation cite(s) and/or a reference(s).</b>  ACL 17-35	

9. QUESTION: (INCLUDE SCENARIO IF NEEDED FOR CLARITY):

We would like clarification; do paid or outstanding medical bills incurred prior to the month of application qualify for the standard medical deduction. The information in ACL 17-35 does not state that the medical bills need to be incurred in the month of application.

Client is applying for CalFresh for the first time. Client is receiving \$1050 Social Security Disability (SSD) a month, \$104.90 is deducted for Medicare Part B. Client has incurred a hospital bill 6 months prior to the application month that was not covered by Medicare Part B. Client has a repayment plan for the hospital bill, paying \$60 a month for 24 months. Is the prior hospital bill a qualifying medical expense?

10. REQUESTOR'S PROPOSED ANSWER:

Unsure.

Per ACL 17-35 page 4 under qualifying medical expenses, any paid or outstanding medical bills (for which there is no 3rd party reimbursement) is a qualifying medical expense. A bill can be averaged over the remaining months in the CalFresh certification period or claimed in one month - whichever is better for the household. However, at the CalFresh Deductions Training on August 9, 2017, it was trained that medical bills paid prior to the month of initial application were not qualifying medical expenses.

11. STATE POLICY RESPONSE (CFPB USE ONLY):

Based on the provided information, the hospital bill is a qualifying medical expense per ACL 17-35 starting in the month of application and moving forward. Any expenses paid prior to the month of application is not a qualifying expense. Per CFR 273.10(1)(a)(i) A household's eligibility shall be determined for the month of application by considering the household's circumstances for the entire month of application.

Allowable medical costs include hospitalization or outpatient treatment, nursing care and nursing home care including payments by the household for an individual who was a household member immediately prior to entering a hospital or nursing home provided by a facility recognized by the state per CFR 273.9(d)(3)(ii).

### FOR CDSS USE

DATE RECEIVED:	DATE RESPONDED TO COUNTY/ALJ: 9.27.17 JR
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